

Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Subcommittee | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 12/17/2019 10:00 AM | Meeting location DOC Conference Room 1M-A

Co-Chairs Kelli Thompson, State
Public Defender

Dave Mahoney, Dane
County Sheriff

Staff

Matt Raymer
Sara Tupper
Renee Lushaj
Heather Kierzek
Erika Schoot
Derek Veitenheimer

Attendees

Kelli Thompson, Dave Mahoney, Mark Abeles-Allison, Beth Robinson, Nick Sayner, Matt Raymer, Erica Schoot, Heather Kierzek, Sara Tupper, Renee Lushaj, Holly Audley, Kelli Thompson, Megan Jones, Chloe Moore, Melvin Juette, Colleen Clark Bernhardt, Kit Kirschensteiner, Becci Main, Barb Flynn, Emily Nolan-Plutchak (WATCP Designee), Sara Benedict, Jane Graham Jennings, Katy Burke, Judge Levine, Jessica Skemp, Kristy Gusse, Lisa Yeates, Lance Wiersma

Absent

Judge Lowe, Patti Jo Severson

AGENDA TOPICS

State CJCC Update/ TAD Subcommittee Role – Matt Raymer

Governor Evers signed Executive Order #41, which identifies the scope of the State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and its subcommittees. Section eight of the executive order outlines efforts the council should focus on, which includes:

“Periodically submit reports to the Governor, to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for dissemination to the judicial branch, to any relevant state agencies as identified by the Council, and to the Chief Clerk of each house of the Legislature for distribution to the legislature that provide information on the progress of the Council’s work. The first such report should be presented no later than March 1, 2020, and should include recommendations regarding:

- i. Improving data collection and data sharing across criminal justice system partners; and
- ii. updating the administration of the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion program to maximize the program’s effectiveness with a goal of ensuring statewide availability of treatment alternatives and diversion resources, whether funded by TAD or other sources.”

The State CJCC, which serves as the advisory body for the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program, established the following subcommittees and co-chairs to work towards completing the tasks outlined in Executive Order #41:

- Evidence-Based Decision Making Subcommittee – Co-Chairs Kelli Thompson and DA David O’Leary
- Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Subcommittee – Co-Chairs Kelli Thompson and Sheriff David Mahoney
- Outreach/Education Subcommittee – Co-Chairs Tiana Glenna and Chief Judge Maxine White
- Data Sharing and OTIs Subcommittee – Co-Chairs Connie Kostelac and Megan Jones
- Legislative/Policy Subcommittee – Attorney General Kaul and Secretary Carr

By March 1, the Data Sharing and OTIs Subcommittee will provide a report on recommendations to improve data collection and data sharing by criminal justice partners, while the TAD Subcommittee will provide a report on the history, status, and recommendations to improve administration of the TAD program.

TAD Program Status – Renee Lushaj and Matt Raymer

The subcommittee reviewed the TAD program's history and its continued expansion.

- As TAD funding has increased, the number of programs has continued to grow rapidly. In CY2020 57 treatment courts and 29 diversion programs will be funded by TAD.

The DOJ continues to use federal funding sources to provide trainings for TAD treatment court and diversion programs, as there are no state funds allocated for this purpose. In 2018, DOJ received a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Adult Drug Court Discretionary grant, which will fund numerous trainings for treatment courts moving forward. Tentative planned trainings include:

- March 2020 – 2-day Standards 101 Training, focusing on providing training to new treatment courts and staff
- March 2020 – 1-day all site TAD meeting, focusing on bringing together TAD sites
- Fall 2020 – Advanced Training for Treatment Courts
- TBD 2021 – Second round of Diversion Standards training

March 2020 Report - Various

The subcommittee reviewed a draft of the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program Report, reviewed the timeline for completion, and provided feedback.

- The State CJCC plans to review a draft of the TAD report at their January 14, 2020 meeting, with plans to provide a final review and approval at their February 2020 meeting, prior to submission in March 2020.
- Subcommittee members provided feedback on draft of the report, common suggestion included: providing an executive summary, providing the TAD statute language, adding anecdotal stories, increasing the number of visuals, providing more data (cost benefit analysis, jail time diverted), addressing the difficulties with the 25% match requirement, including difficulties counties face with eligibility, requesting more guidance on statutory language, and discussing the lack of guidance to specific court models (e.g. veterans courts).

Wisconsin Treatment Court Strategic Planning Workshop – Katy Burke

The Center for Court Innovations (CCI), at the request of the State Courts Office, facilitated a two-day meeting of Wisconsin treatment court stakeholders, with the goal of developing a 3-5-year plan for how the state is going to continue to support current and new programs statewide.

- Action plans were developed and main areas of discussion included: how to address equity and inclusion, dealing with high turnover in staff, how to address the increasing number of individuals needing training, how to address gaps in treatment, issues related to target population and eligibility, community safety concerns, stakeholder buy in, etc.
- The State Courts Office is tasked with providing a draft of the plan by February, with a completion date by April 16th, to present at the April WATCP conference.

Meeting Recap / Next Steps

Additional feedback on the March 2020 report should be provided to the DOJ by the week of January 6th. The next meeting will be Friday, January 10th from 1pm to 3pm, to discuss suggested TAD statue changes and a copy of the decision tree visual aid will be provided.

Motion to adjourn was made by Becci Main and seconded by Holly Audley.

No public comment.